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ROTHWELL
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1947

Urban District of Rothwell

Members of the Public Health Committee :

Mr. J. W. Rowlett (*Chairman*).

Messrs. A. Crook, S. B. Kimbell, F. T. Lee and C. H. York.

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council are ex-officio members.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority :

Medical Officer of Health :

JOHN TERENCE MURPHY, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Also holds the appointments of Medical Officer of Health to the Urban District Councils of Burton Latimer, Corby, Desborough, the Rural District of Kettering and Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant School Medical Officer to the Northamptonshire County Council.

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor :

G. A. GRAVES, A.R.San.I. (until 31st August).

(Holds the Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate as an Inspector of Meat and other Foods).

A. SMITH, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I., Cert.S.I.B. (From Dec. 4th)

(Holds the Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate as an Inspector of Meat and other Foods.)

Public Health Department,
75 London Road,
KETTERING,
September, 1948.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Rothwell Urban District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my annual report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Urban District for 1947.

The health of the district has been well maintained throughout the year as evidenced by the death rate and Infantile Mortality rate. It is with pleasure that I record the absence of Diphtheria within the Urban District during the year and the immunisation scheme is still progressing satisfactorily, 153 children receiving reinforcing injections.

I wish to express thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their support and also to the Clerk for his help and co-operation during the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. T. MURPHY,

Medical Officer of Health.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

The following is a summary of the principal statistics for the years
1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947.

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Area (acres)	3638	3638	3638	3638	3638
Population (Registrar-General's estimate)	4432	4458	4408	4629	4747
Number of Live Births	84	99	83	103	91
Legitimate	73	81	69	96	85
Illegitimate	11	18	14	7	6
Birthrate per 1,000 population ...	18.95	22.20	18.82	22.25	19.17
Number of Still Births	5	2	1	3	—
Legitimate	5	2	1	3	—
Illegitimate	—	—	—	—	—
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	56.18	19.80	11.90	28.30	—
Rate per 1,000 population	1.12	0.44	0.22	0.64	—
Number of Deaths	64	55	70	54	51
Death rate per 1,000 population (crude)	14.44	12.33	15.88	11.66	10.74
Total Maternal Deaths	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Other Puerperal Causes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Infantile Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	83.33	30.30	60.24	29.12	21.97
Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis	5	5	2	1	1
Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	5	4	2	—	1
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	7	8	9	9	4
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	—	—	—	—	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea under two years of age	—	—	—	—	—

SECTION A. Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area (acres)	3,638
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population	4,747
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1947) according to	
Rate Books	1,485
Rateable Value	£19,908
Sum represented by Penny Rate	£75

The chief occupations of the inhabitants are as follows:—
 Boot and shoe manufacture, ironstone mining and manufacture of
 agricultural implements.

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

LIVE BIRTHS.				Total	Males	Female
Legitimate	...	...	...	85	51	34
Illegitimate	...	...	...	6	4	2
				—	—	—
	Totals	...		91	55	36
				—	—	—

Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population ... 19.17

STILL BIRTHS.				Total	Males	Females
				—	—	—

DEATHS				Total	Males	Females
				51	32	19

Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 10.74

Deaths from Puerperal causes:—

Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	—
Other Puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	—
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	...	—

Death-rate of infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	21.97
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	11.46
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	166.66
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	...	...	...	—
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	4
Deaths—No “comparability” factor was issued for 1947.				

Births.—The following table shows the birth rate for 1947 together with the rate for England and Wales.

Live Birth Rates, 1947.					
Rothwell	...	...	...	...	19.17
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	20.5

Infantile mortality is the number of deaths in children under one year of age per 1,000 live births. This is an indication of the environmental and social conditions of a community with special reference to housing, overcrowding and maternity and child welfare.

Infantile Mortality Rates, 1947.					
Rothwell	...	...	...	...	21.97
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	41.0

Deaths of Infants under One year of age.—The causes of death in children under one year with age and sex distribution are given in the following table:—

Age	Sex	Cause of Death
2 days	M.	Cerebral Haemorrhage, Tentorial Tear, 3 weeks prematurity, Broncho Pneumonia.
3 months	F.	Whooping Cough.

The registered causes of death were as follows:—

					Males	Females	Total
All Causes	...	...	...	...	32	19	51
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers					—	—	—
2 Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
3 Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
4 Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
5 Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
6 Tuberculosis of the respiratory system					1	—	1
7 Other forms of tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
8 Syphilitic diseases	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
9 Influenza	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
10 Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
11 Acute Poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis					—	—	—
12 Acute infantile encephalitis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
13 Cancer	...	...	...	...	3	1	4
14 Diabetes	...	...	...	...	2	3	5
15 Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	14	7	21
16 Intracranial vascular lesions	...	...	...	...	2	3	5
17 Other circulatory diseases	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
18 Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
19 Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
20 Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
21 Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
22 Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
23 Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—

Registered Causes of Death—continued.

					Males	Females	Total
24	Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	1	—	1
25	Nephritis	...	...	...	3	—	3
26	Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	—	—	—
27	Premature Birth	...	...	...	—	—	—
28	Congenital debility, malformation, and birth injury	...	...	...	1	—	1
29	Suicide	...	...	...	1	—	1
30	Road traffic accidents	...	...	...	2	—	2
31	Other violent causes	...	...	...	—	—	—
32	All other causes	...	...	...	1	1	2

SECTION B. General Provision of Health Services.

(a) **Laboratory facilities.**—Bacteriological examinations have been carried out by the Emergency Public Health laboratory at Northampton.

The following specimens were examined:— 1947

Swabs	...	...	...	...	...	7
Blood	...	...	...	...	...	—
Faeces	...	...	...	...	...	—
Urine	...	...	...	...	...	—
Sputum	...	...	...	...	...	1

(b) **Ambulance facilities.**—Infectious cases are removed by the ambulance of the Joint Hospital Board. Non-infectious and accident cases are removed by the Desborough or Kettering ambulance under the administration of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

(c) **Nursing in the Home.**—The Rothwell Nursing Association which is affiliated to the County Nursing Association provides the services of a whole time nurse. Details of the work carried out during 1947 are as follows:

Cases Nursed			Total
General	Midwifery	Maternity	Visits
118	21	32	3,935

(d) **Treatment Centres and Clinics.**—A County Council Child Welfare Clinic is held twice monthly. A Medical Officer attends one session each month.

The County Council is the Authority for the treatment of Tuberculosis and the Tuberculosis Officer attends weekly at the Health Clinic, Market Street, Kettering.

Orthopaedic cases attend the Manfield Orthopaedic Clinic at Kettering.

Persons suffering from Venereal Diseases are treated at the Kettering and District General Hospital every Thursday evening under the County Council scheme.

Under the Scabies Order, 1941, a cleansing centre was established in 1942 and the services of a nurse were obtained for treating women and children.

No. ascertained	No. treated at Centre	No. treated at home
31	5	26

Diphtheria Immunisation:—From 1941 free immunisation against Diphtheria was offered to children from one to fifteen years of age.

The number of children who were immunised in 1947 is as follows:

Under 5 years	...	...	...	...	56
5 to 14 years	...	...	...	...	2
Total	...	...	...	...	58

The number of children who have had the full course of immunisation since the beginning of the scheme is as follows:—

Age at 31-12-47	Under 1	1	2	3	4
i.e. Born in Year	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943
Number immunised	1	46	49	53	61

Estimated mid-year population, 1947, 420.

Age at 31-12-47	5 to 9	10 to 14
i.e. Born in the Year	1938-1942	1933-1937
Number immunised	315	301

Estimated mid-year population, 1947, 560

Total number under 15 years immunised, 807

The above figures do not include those children immunised by private arrangement.

The number of children who received a reinforcing injection of Diphtheria prophylactic during the year was 153.

SECTION C. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water Supply.—Heavy falls of snow during the first three months of the year raised the flow of water to a maximum of 688,000 gallons per day on the 19th March, but the exceptionally dry summer and autumn reduced this to 59,800 gallons per day by the 9th December.

The half-way house supply was brought into use on the 12th August, and an average of 10,000 gallons per day was obtained to the end of the year.

The supply of water was cut off on the : 11th September, between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m. and on the 15th October, between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. to the end of the year except for the six nights 23rd to the 28th December, during the Christmas holidays.

On the 12th December the overland 6" main was connected to Desborough Water Works, and water pumped from a disused well supply, giving an additional 10,000 gallons per day to the end of the year.

A sample of water taken on the 23rd July, 1947, was reported by the Public Health Laboratory Service to be satisfactory.

The annual rainfall was 21.21 inches.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.—The disposal works have continued to work satisfactorily and no alterations have take place.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.—260 inspections for all purposes were made during the year.

Number of notices served :-

Statutory	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Informal	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
(Complied with)	...	...	...	...	...	...	17

Meat and other Foods.—The following food stuffs being found to be unfit for human consumption were condemned and destroyed :-

Canned Vegetables	...	...	...	...	64 lbs.
Canned Fish	...	...	...	...	49 lbs.
Canned Meat	...	...	...	...	36 lbs.
Canned Fruit	...	...	...	...	10 lbs.

Bake-Houses.—The three bakehouses were inspected on seven occasions and found to be satisfactory.

Milk and Dairies.—Inspections of cowsheds and dairies were made frequently, and 52 samples of milk taken:-

48 were submitted to the Methylene Blue Test, 32 were good, 3 moderate and 15 were bad.

Four samples of pasteurised milk were examined by the phosphatase test and two of the samples failed to pass the test.

Inspection of Factories was carried out on 10 occasions, four defects in respect of insufficient sanitary conveniences were found and all the defects were remedied.

SECTION F. Infectious Diseases.

Scarlet Fever. Six cases were notified, these were removed to hospital and all recovered.

Measles and Whooping Cough. There was a sharp outbreak during the year—all were nursed at home. One child aged three months died from Whooping Cough.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925. These Regulations empower the Council to prevent persons suffering from tuberculosis to engage in the milk trade. No action was taken during 1947.

Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62 and Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172. No action was taken under this section whereby an infectious case of pulmonary tuberculosis may be compulsorily removed to hospital.

Five new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and two cases of non-respiratory tuberculosis were notified during the year. There was one death from pulmonary tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis After-Care. The Committee continues to take a great interest in the welfare of the patients. The preventive side of tuberculosis is stressed as well as making grants of assistance to the patients.

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis), 1947

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Dysentery	2
Scarlet Fever	6
Pneumonia	1
Measles	111
Whooping Cough	21
Totals	141

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis), 1947

Disease	-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & Over	All Ages	Removed to Hospital	Deaths	Age Unknown
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	3	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	6	3	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Measles	3	13	17	11	18	43	4	—	—	1	—	—	111	—	—	1
Whooping Cough	2	4	2	3	4	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	21	—	1	1
Totals	5	17	19	14	24	51	6	—	—	2	1	—	141	3	1	2

NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS, 1947.

Age Periods	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	—	—	—
15—	—	2	—	2
25—	—	—	—	—
35—	2	1	—	—
45—	—	—	—	—
55—	—	—	—	—
65—	—	—	—	—
Totals	2	3	—	2

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1947.

Age Periods	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	—	—	—
15—	—	—	—	—
25—	—	—	—	—
35—	—	—	—	—
45—	1	—	—	—
55—	—	—	—	—
65—	—	—	—	—
Totals	1	—	—	—

